

summary action were also sent along with the proclamation. All Burr's men and stores were to be seized.

It was not long before matters took on a serious aspect. Either from the connivance or the blundering of the judicial officers of the West, Burr's movement seemed to be gaining ground. Daveiss was a vigorous officer, and early in November he had made a motion for Burr's arrest. The Judge had refused it, but when a grand jury was impanelled, Daveiss found that his action had been premature and moved for the discharge of the jury. A second time Daveiss renewed his motion in the District court, and again Burr was released. But the grand jury did more. They signed a declaration to the effect that Burr had meditated nothing dangerous to the peace and well-being of the United States. So strong was the sympathy of the immediate section with Burr, that the action of the District Attorney was regarded as a piece of persecution originating with Jefferson.

The local authorities of Ohio and Kentucky were, if not disloyal to the government, at least negligent; for, notwithstanding the President's proclamation, and the passage of the necessary measures by the legislatures of those two States, Burr's forces were allowed to escape in boats down the Ohio. He himself joined them at the mouth of the Cumberland, and by January, 1807, the combined forces were as far down the Mississippi as Natchez. In spite of the advantage Burr had gained from the decision of the court in Kentucky, his great expedition had dwindled to the pitiful size of one hundred men, carried in thirteen boats.

Wilkinson had in the meantime been acting with a decision and vigor to which he had hitherto been a stranger. He had made the most extensive preparations at New Orleans to resist Burr, had had the legislature of the Territory summoned to a special session, and had arrested three of the most conspicuous of Burr's accomplices, two of whom were sent North.

Burr learned of these preparations, and, landing his handful of men at Natchez, established a camp there. On the arrival of the President's proclamation he surrendered and appeared be-